

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KITAMURA, et al.

Filed: February 20, 2004

For: METHOD AND DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM WITH DATA
REPLICATION

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

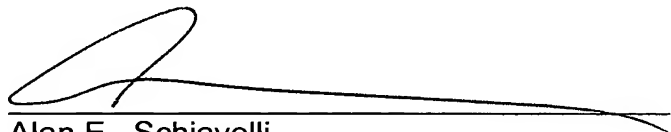
February 20, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. 2003-108361 filed in Japan on April 11, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Schiavelli', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alan E. Schiavelli
Registration No. 32,087

1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
Tel.: 703-312-6600
Fax: 703-312-6666
AES/alb